



# CREATE A *NATURE*PIECE!

A bit of birch bark, a smattering of sea shells, a pinch of pine needles and voila! You have made nature art. When you make nature art, the only rules are to have fun and use the natural world as your guide. Onward and Artward!



## NATURE ART IDEAS



## TIPS FOR SUCCESS



## A CLOSER LOOK AT NATURE ART



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# WE GET TO MAKE NATURE ART!

## DIFFICULTY: EASY

Make a collage from ferns and acorns, create patterns using the petals of a daisy, build a sculpture of pinecones. Let nature be your inspiration as you compose your NatCat-tabulous masterpiece!

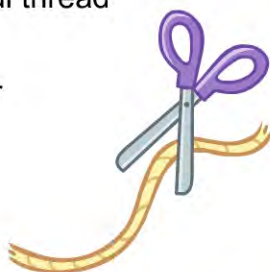
## MATERIALS

- Glue, clear tape or mounting putty
- Craft supplies, such as crayons, construction paper, paint, cardboard, yarn, colorful thread
- Safety scissors
- Basket or tote bag for collecting your nature materials



## EXAMPLES OF NATURE MATERIALS

- |                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ● Shells             | ● Sticks, twigs, drift wood |
| ● Acorn caps         | ● Leaves                    |
| ● Maple seed pods    | ● Lichen                    |
| ● Tree bark          | ● Seaweed                   |
| ● Pine cones         | ● Mica flakes               |
| ● Pine needles       | ● Fern fronds               |
| ● Dried flowers      | ● Seeds                     |
| ● Dried milkweed pod |                             |



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# Nature CAT

## NATURE ART IDEAS

- 1 Collect materials from a nearby park, your backyard or other favorite outdoor spot. If you are in a public place, know the rules before you take from live plants, such as picking flowers.
- 2 When you have your nature supplies, lay out everything you found on a flat surface where you can work.
- 3 It's time to make art! Here are some ideas to get you started:

Make a collage using different colored leaves, dried flowers and seed pods.

Make the shape of your favorite animal using twigs, leaves, bark, ferns, and acorn caps.

Make a boat using bark, twigs and leaves.

Use your natural materials, along with paint or crayons, to make a nature scene.

Make patterns based on color or shape.

- 4 Ta-dee! You made Nature Art. Share your creations with Nature Cat on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and plan a nature art show with your friends.



### STEP 1



### STEP 2



### STEP 3



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## TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Spend time outside for nature art ideas. Walk through a marsh, the woods, or a park. Explore your backyard, the beach or a pond. You never know when or how nature will inspire you!



If you don't have a plan yet for your naturepiece, gather lots of materials of different colors, sizes and textures so you have options when you are ready to create.



Keep freshly picked ferns or flowers in water to keep them from drying out until you are ready to use them to make your nature art. You can also “press” them to make them flat by placing a heavy book on top of them.



Place different materials next to each other and think about what they remind you of or what looks nice together. Fern fronds may remind you of hair. A leaf may look like a sail, while maple seed pods may look like the wings of a dragonfly. And those twigs and a pinecone look like Mr. Chewinsky, right? Wink, wink.



Try different colors of construction paper for your background.



Lay out the design for your nature art before you glue or tape it into place.



## A CLOSER LOOK AT NATURE ART

A pattern is something that repeats over and over in a predictable way. You can find patterns in nature in surprising places, such as the spiraling pattern of a snail shell, the striped pattern of the monarch caterpillar or the repeating wing pattern of a butterfly. Look for patterns when you are outside, and in the materials you collect. They may provide inspiration for your *naturepiece*.

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